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7-1902

APPLICANT: M. Abe, et al.  
SERIAL NO. 09/915,622  
FILING DATE: July 26, 2001  
INVENTION: INFORMATION PROVIDING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND RECORDING MEDIUM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 9792909-5145  
GROUP ART UNIT: 2171  
EXAMINER: unknown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 08 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within 3 months (1) of filing date of a national application; (2) of date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last. (No fee is required.)
- ☐ After the mailing date of a first Office Action but before (1) mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) mailing of a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.
  - ☐ Payment for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) accompanies this submission; or
  - ☐ The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. (No fee is required.)
- ☐ After the mailing of (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113; or (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311 whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee. The certification specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) is made below. The Commissioner hereby is petitioned to consider the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this submission. Payment for the Petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) accompanies this submission.
- ☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information identified in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to cover any required fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for this purpose.

Very respectfully,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

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When phoning re this application,  
please call (312) 876-8000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington D.C. on 6/24/02.

J. Ellen Hogan  
J. Ellen Hogan



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO-1449 form, copies of which are enclosed herewith in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

I. SUBMITTED UNITED STATES PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
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II. SUBMITTED FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCES

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
B1	11346302	JP	14 December 1999
B2	200099380	JP	07 April 2000
B3	1098522	EP	09 May 2001
B4	00/39954	WO	06 July 2000

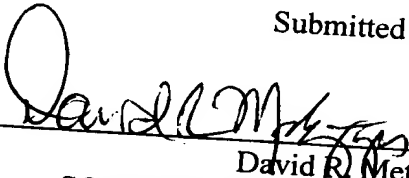
III. OTHER DOCUMENTS

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Title/Author</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
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IV. EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The references were cited in the European Search Report dated May 13, 2002, in connection with counterpart European Patent Application No. 01118068.4-2202. A copy of the Search Report is submitted herewith.

Submitted by,

  
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